

Notice of Allowability

Application No.

10/800,164

Examiner

Hoang V. Nguyen

Applicant(s)

CARRENDER ET AL.

Art Unit

2821

-- The MAILING DATE of this communication appears on the cover sheet with the correspondence address--

All claims being allowable, PROSECUTION ON THE MERITS IS (OR REMAINS) CLOSED in this application. If not included herewith (or previously mailed), a Notice of Allowance (PTOL-85) or other appropriate communication will be mailed in due course. **THIS NOTICE OF ALLOWABILITY IS NOT A GRANT OF PATENT RIGHTS.** This application is subject to withdrawal from issue at the initiative of the Office or upon petition by the applicant. See 37 CFR 1.313 and MPEP 1308.

1. ☒ This communication is responsive to amendment filed on 17 January 2006.
2. ☒ The allowed claim(s) is/are 1-3,6-8,10-14,20,21 and 26-29.
3. ☐ Acknowledgment is made of a claim for foreign priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119(a)-(d) or (f).
- a) ☐ All b) ☐ Some* c) ☐ None of the:
1. ☐ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received.
2. ☐ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received in Application No. _____.
3. ☐ Copies of the certified copies of the priority documents have been received in this national stage application from the International Bureau (PCT Rule 17.2(a)).

* Certified copies not received: _____.

Applicant has THREE MONTHS FROM THE "MAILING DATE" of this communication to file a reply complying with the requirements noted below. Failure to timely comply will result in ABANDONMENT of this application.

THIS THREE-MONTH PERIOD IS NOT EXTENDABLE.

4. ☐ A SUBSTITUTE OATH OR DECLARATION must be submitted. Note the attached EXAMINER'S AMENDMENT or NOTICE OF INFORMAL PATENT APPLICATION (PTO-152) which gives reason(s) why the oath or declaration is deficient.
5. ☐ CORRECTED DRAWINGS (as "replacement sheets") must be submitted.
- (a) ☐ including changes required by the Notice of Draftsperson's Patent Drawing Review (PTO-948) attached
- 1) ☐ hereto or 2) ☐ to Paper No./Mail Date _____.
- (b) ☐ including changes required by the attached Examiner's Amendment / Comment or in the Office action of Paper No./Mail Date _____.
- Identifying indicia such as the application number (see 37 CFR 1.84(c)) should be written on the drawings in the front (not the back) of each sheet. Replacement sheet(s) should be labeled as such in the header according to 37 CFR 1.121(d).
6. ☐ DEPOSIT OF and/or INFORMATION about the deposit of BIOLOGICAL MATERIAL must be submitted. Note the attached Examiner's comment regarding REQUIREMENT FOR THE DEPOSIT OF BIOLOGICAL MATERIAL.

Attachment(s)

1. ☐ Notice of References Cited (PTO-892)
2. ☐ Notice of Draftsperson's Patent Drawing Review (PTO-948)
3. ☒ Information Disclosure Statements (PTO-1449 or PTO/SB/08), Paper No./Mail Date 9/30/05
4. ☐ Examiner's Comment Regarding Requirement for Deposit of Biological Material
5. ☐ Notice of Informal Patent Application (PTO-152)
6. ☐ Interview Summary (PTO-413), Paper No./Mail Date _____
7. ☐ Examiner's Amendment/Comment
8. ☒ Examiner's Statement of Reasons for Allowance
9. ☐ Other _____



HOANG V. NGUYEN
PRIMARY EXAMINER

Allowable Subject Matter

1. Claims 1-3, 6-8, 10-14, 20, 21 and 26-29 are allowed.
2. The following is an examiner's statement of reasons for allowance:

Regarding claim 20, McLean (US 6,486,769) and Padhi et al disclose an interrogator comprising a transmitter; a receiver coupled to the transmitter; a decoder coupled to the receiver to decode received signals; and an antenna coupled to the receiver and the transmitter, the antenna comprising a patch element coupled to a ground plane, a first strip line in the ground plane to propagate a first polarized signal in a first direction, a second strip line in the ground plane to propagate a second polarized signal in a second direction, wherein the first strip line is activated separately from the second strip line. McLean/Padhi, however, fails to specifically teach that the first strip line is coupled to a first edge of the patch element and the second strip line is coupled to a second edge of the patch element.

Claim 21 is allowed for depending on claim 20.

Regarding claim 26, the antenna of McLean/Padhi would enable the method comprising the steps of alternately activating a first strip line on an antenna to propagate a first signal having a first polarization and activating a second strip line on an antenna to propagate a second signal having a second polarization; searching for an identification tag using the first and second signals; and identifying the identification tag. McLean/Padhi, however, fails to specifically teach that the second polarization is oriented greater than zero degrees and less than ninety degrees from the first polarization.

Art Unit: 2821

Regarding claim 27, the antenna of McLean/Padhi would enable the method comprising the steps of alternately activating a first strip line on an antenna to propagate a first signal having a first polarization and activating a second strip line on an antenna to propagate a second signal having a second polarization; searching for an identification tag using the first and second signals; and identifying the identification tag. McLean/Padhi, however, fails to further teach the step of changing a frequency of the first and second signals.

Claims 28 and 29 are allowed for depending on claim 27.

Reasons for indicating allowable subject matter for claims 1-3, 6-8 and 10-14 were provided in the previous Office action.

3. Any comments considered necessary by applicant must be submitted no later than the payment of the issue fee and, to avoid processing delays, should preferably accompany the issue fee. Such submissions should be clearly labeled "Comments on Statement of Reasons for Allowance."

Inquiry

4. Any inquiry concerning this communication or earlier communications from the examiner should be directed to Hoang V. Nguyen whose telephone number is (571) 272-1825. The examiner can normally be reached on Mondays-Fridays from 8:00 a.m. to 4:00 p.m..

If attempts to reach the examiner by telephone are unsuccessful, the examiner's supervisor, Don Wong can be reached on (571) 272-1834. The fax phone number for the organization where this application or proceeding is assigned is 571-273-8300.

Art Unit: 2821

5. Information regarding the status of an application may be obtained from the Patent Application Information Retrieval (PAIR) system. Status information for published applications may be obtained from either Private PAIR or Public PAIR. Status information for unpublished applications is available through Private PAIR only. For more information about the PAIR system, see <http://pair-direct.uspto.gov>. Should you have questions on access to the Private PAIR system, contact the Electronic Business Center (EBC) at 866-217-9197 (toll-free).

Hvn
1/27/06



HOANG V. NGUYEN
PRIMARY EXAMINER